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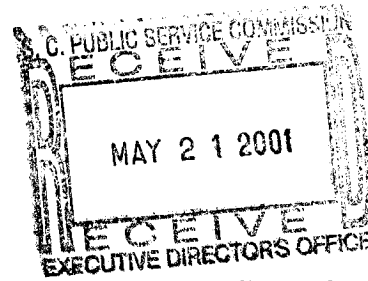
DAVID W. ROBINSON  
(1869-1935)  
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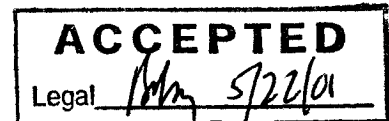
INTERESTED  
#1080

May 21, 2001



Hand Delivered

2001-209-C



The Honorable Gary E. Walsh  
Executive Director  
Public Service Commission of SC  
Post Office Drawer 11649  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

RE: Application of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. to Provide  
In-Region InterLATA Services Pursuant to Section 271 of the  
Telecommunications Act of 1996

Dear Mr. Walsh:

UTILITIES DEPT. This firm has been retained by the South Carolina Cable Television Association as well as NewSouth Communications to intervene on their behalf in the proceedings on BellSouth's Section 271 Application. I have also had some discussions concerning representation with at least one other potential intervenor. We are in the process of preparing petitions to intervene which will be filed promptly with the Commission.

My preliminary discussions with our clients indicate that there are compelling reasons why hearings on this application should not be rushed but should be held after the conclusion of proceedings in other states on third-party testing and the establishment of performance measures. Based on those discussions I have begun gathering information to support a motion to this Commission which would ask for an appropriate scheduling order.

On Friday, May 18 I was served a courtesy copy of a letter by which BellSouth has asked that the hearing on its Section 271 application be held during the week of July 23. I now see that this request is on the Commission's agenda for tomorrow's meeting.

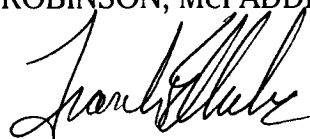
I respectfully ask that BellSouth's request be carried over and that no action be taken on it at tomorrow's meeting. Carrying over BellSouth's request would allow the Commission an opportunity to address scheduling issues in this case in an orderly fashion. I see no reason why the Commission should not follow its customary procedure of publishing a

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RETURN DATE: 5/22/01

notice of this proceeding, obtaining interventions and only then establishing a hearing date. I believe that when the Commission has an opportunity to hear from interested parties other than BellSouth it will understand that there are compelling reasons why hearings in this proceeding should follow the conclusion of the related proceedings in other BellSouth states.

Yours truly,

ROBINSON, McFADDEN & MOORE, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank R. Ellerbe, III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Frank" being the most prominent.

Frank R. Ellerbe, III

FRE,III/ew

cc: Caroline N. Watson, Esq. (via fax)  
Lori Reese, Esq. (via fax)  
Nancy Horne (via fax)  
Recipients of Ms. Watson's letter (via fax)